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Yucca Mountain

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The United States' nuclear waste does have to be dumped somewhere. We cannot afford to risk disaster by storing them in an inadequate area. However, there are two major problems with the plan for dumping nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain. 1) The routes that are currently being projected for use are too near major populations 2) storing nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain may create a disaster.

1 cont. By transporting nuclear waste through large population centers, e.g. Chicago, we are waiting for a disaster. If one of the two-ton casks were to have a defect and release radiation over this area, thousands of people would die and there would be somatic and genetic damage. This problem can be avoided by re-routing so that the trucks do not have to pass by populace areas. In the case of an accident large populations will not be exposed. I am aware that there has already been considerable criticism on this subject; I would just like to add my name to the list.

2 cont. Yucca Mountain is certainly one of the best places for storing nuclear waste. It is of course, on the earth. Keeping nuclear waste on the earth is risky by all rights because an accident would immediately infect the only place humanity lives. Despite being in a good location, Yucca Mountain is only 100 miles away from Las Vegas. Las Vegas is a tourist city. Millions of people come and go. If there were an undetected leak that reaches Las Vegas, the affects would be devastating.

3 So for now, Yucca Mountain is an okay site for storing nuclear waste. The fact is, it has to be stored somewhere. I agree with storing it at Yucca Mountain, but the routes must be changed to avoid any accidents.

Respectfully,

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